

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-04 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-08

TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01 AF-10

ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-15 DRC-01 /239 W

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R 251215Z SEP 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1805

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

UNCLAS GENEVA 5083

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, GATT, AS, EC, JA, NZ

SUBJ: MEETING GATT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ON DAIRY PRODUCTS

REF: STATE 183683

1. SUMMARY: MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES ON NON-FAT DRY MILK (NFDM) AND MILK FAT MET CONSECUTIVELY SEPT. 24 AND DISCUSSED NEED RAISE MINIMUM PRICE FOR NFDM, REVIEWED MARKET SITUATIONS AND SET NEW DATE FOR NEXT MEETING DEC. 10. EC REP CALLED ON US EXPLAIN NEW US ANIMAL HEALTH REGULATION ON DAIRY IMPORTS. US REP RESPONDED ALONG LINES REFTEL. END SUMMARY

2. MINIMUM PRICE FOR NFDM. NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, SOUTH AFRICA AND AUSTRIA ALL CALLED FOR INCREASE MINIMUM TO DOLS 35/100 KG FROM AGREEMENT PRICE DOLS 25/100 KG CITING TWO US UNCLASSIFIED

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DOLLAR DEVALUATIONS, REVALUATION OTHER CURRENCIES, RISING COSTS AND

CONTINUED STRONG DEMAND AND PRICES WHICH SEEMED STABILIZE AT HIGHER LEVELS RECENTLY. JAPAN CONTINUED OPPOSE ANY CHANGE IN PRICE, BECAUSE CONVINCED NO FUNDAMENTAL LONG RANGE CHANGE OCCURRED IN MARKET STRUCTURE AND DEMAND. CURRENT TIGHT SUPPLIES APPEAR ONLY TEMPORARY AS INDICATED BY RECENT REMOVAL EMBARGO BY US ON OTHER PRODUCTS. PROMISED HOWEVER RELAY VIEWS BY OTHERS TO TOKYO. EC KEPT SILENCE. MINIMUM PRICE WILL BE DISCUSSED AGAIN NEXT MEETING.

3. MARKET SITUATION. DISCUSSION REVEALED EXPECTATION CONTINUOUS TIGHT SUPPLIES FOR NFDM. AUSTRALIA HOPES 10 PERCENT INCREASE PRODUCTION IN 1974, HOWEVER RECENT FLOODS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA MAKE FORECAST HAZARDOUS. NEW ZEALAND SHIFTING DEMAND FOR NFDM FROM CASEIN. EC GAVE NO PRODUCTION FIGURES BUT SAID SECOND QUARTER 1973 STOCKS STOOD AROUND 150,000 MT. RECENT EC EXPORT PRICES AFTER RESTITUTIONS WERE IN RANGE DOLS 720-730.

4. COMMITTEE ALSO DISCUSSED GATT SECRETARIAT PAPER ON INTER NATIONAL MARKET OF SKIM MILK POWDER (MCDP/W/25, AUG. 17, 1973). MOST DELEGATES PRAISED PAPER BUT ALSO POINTED OUT FAILURE TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO RELATIONS BETWEEN VEGETABLE PROTEIN AND SKIM MILK POWDER.

5. EC ASKED US TO COMMENT ON RECENT INTRODUCTION NEW US ANIMAL HEALTH REGULATION DAIRY IMPORTS. US OBSERVER (THUROCZY) RESPONDED SUBSTANCE REFTEL EMPHASIZING NEW REGULATIONS NOT NOW IN FORCE AND INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF PROPOSED REGULATION.

6. MILK FAT. DISCUSSION WAS SHORT. EC SAID RECENT EXPORT PRICES WERE DOLS 950/MT WHILE THOSE NEW ZEALAND RANGED DOLS 936 - 1008/MT. AUSTRALIA CLAIMED INADEQUATE STATISTICS TO REPORT ON MARKET SITUATION.

7. NEXT MEETING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE WAS SET DEC. 10. BASSIN

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